

### *Amendments to the Claims*

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

#### Listing of claims:

Claims 1-26. (Cancelled)

Claim 27. (Currently amended) A method for identifying an agent that modulates TNF-related apoptosis-inducing ligand (TRAIL)-induced apoptosis, comprising:

- a) assaying kinase activity of JNK inhibitory kinase (JIK) in the presence of a test agent;
- b) identifying an agent that modulates the kinase activity of JIK;
- c) contacting a first cell system wherein JIK is endogenously expressed with said the agent that modulates the kinase activity of JIK with TRAIL in a cell system wherein JIK is endogenously expressed; and contacting a second cell system wherein JIK is endogenously expressed with the agent that modulates the kinase activity of JIK, wherein the first cell system and the second cell system are the same;
- d) contacting the first cell system with TRAIL; and
- [[d)]] e) assaying for apoptosis activity in said the first cell system and the second cell system; thereby identifying an agent that modulates TRAIL-induced apoptosis.

Claim 28. (Currently amended) The method of claim 27, wherein ~~said the~~ agent that modulates TRAIL-induced apoptosis enhances TRAIL-induced apoptosis activity.

Claim 29. (Currently amended) The method of claim 27, wherein ~~said the~~ agent that modulates TRAIL-induced apoptosis inhibits TRAIL-induced apoptosis activity.

Claim 30. (Currently amended) The method of claim 27, wherein ~~said the first cell system and the second cell system comprise comprises~~ tumor cells.

Claim 31. (Currently amended) The method of claim 30, wherein ~~said~~ the tumor cells are HeLa cells

Claim 32. (Currently amended) The method of claim 30, wherein the first cell system and the second cell system are ~~present~~ are ~~present~~ in a subject.

Claim 33. (Currently amended) The method of claim 27, wherein step ~~[(d)]~~ e) comprises assaying for caspase activity.